

PORTSMOUTH BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
Special Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, October 18, 2022

6:30PM

Portsmouth Fire Station 2

George Pierce Training Room, Portsmouth, NH 03801

I. Call To Order

Chairwoman Matthes called the meeting to order at 6:30PM

Present were:

Fire Commissioners: Jennifer Matthes, Richard Gamester and Michael Hughes, Fire Chief William McQuillen, Assistant Fire Chief Jason Gionet, Deputy Fire Chief Patrick Howe, Captain Seth Kenneway, Lieutenant Brian Wade, NH Fire Academy Director Justin Cutting, City Councilors: Rich Blalock and Andrew Bagley; City Clerk Kelli Barnaby, Administrative Manager Tracy Freeman, Photographer David Lang, family and friends and department members.

Firefighter Juan Idarraga arrived shortly after meeting started.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

Chairwoman Matthes lead the pledge of allegiance.

III. New Business:

Chief McQuillen spoke of the recent Captain's promotion exam with four participants and all did extremely well. Lieutenant Seth Kenneway came out as top candidate and recommends that the Fire Commission promote him to the rank of Captain.

Motion, to promote Lieutenant Seth Kenneway to Captain, was made by Commissioner Gamester. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Hughes and passed unanimously.

With the promotion of Lt. Kenneway to Captain, Chief McQuillen recommended that Acting Lieutenant Brian Wade be promoted to Lieutenant.

Motion, to promote Acting Lieutenant Wade to the position of Lieutenant, was made by Commissioner Gamester. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Hughes and passed unanimously.

IV. Recognition of Individuals:

City Clerk Kelli Barnaby swore in Fire Chief William McQuillen, Assistant Fire Chief Jason Gionet, Captain Seth Kenneway and Lieutenant Brian Wade.

Chief McQuillen presented a Certificate of Recognition to Firefighter Shaun Sullivan and Firefighter Shaw Terrill for their dedication and commitment towards becoming a firefighter Paramedic and successful graduation from the Pro EMS Paramedic Program.

Chief McQuillen added that the Pro EMS Paramedic Program is an accelerated 9-month, 1200 hours program requiring classroom, hands-on, field observation and clinical work.

Chairwoman Matthes made the motion to suspend the meeting for a 10-minute recess for pictures and to allow time for Firefighter Idarraga to arrive. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Gamester and passed unanimously.

Regular meeting reconvened at 7:00PM.

City Clerk Kelli Barnaby swore in Firefighter Juan Idarraga.

Chief McQuillen presented a Certificate of Recognition to Firefighter Juan Idarraga for his dedication and commitment towards becoming a firefighter Paramedic and successful graduation from the Pro EMS Paramedic Program.

V. Adjournment:

Chairwoman Matthes made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:05PM. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Hughes and passed unanimously.

Fire Commissioner Richard Gamester